# ISLINGTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD MINUTES
17 May 2011
Whittington Hospital
Magdala Avenue N19

**Present:**
- Adams, Ross RA  Senior Programme Manager, Chance UK
- Blair, Cathy CB  Director Child Protection, Islington Council
- Briers, Andrew ABr  MPS
- Brooks, Patrick PB  Community Involvement Officer, London Ambulance Service
- Carroll, Jo JCar  Lead Nurse Safeguarding Children, Whittington Hospital (for Bronagh Scott)
- Chapman, Jane JC  Designated Nurse Child Protection, NHS Islington
- Drury, Jackie JDr  Camden and Islington NHS Mental Health & Social Care Trust
- Eden, Laura LE  Operational Manager, Quality and Safeguarding
- Friedberg, Melissa MF  Training and Development Officer, ISCB
- Gilby, Maria MG  ISCB Co-ordinator (Minutes)
- Grant, Graham GG  DCI, CAIC
- Jenkins, Stella SJ  Camden Clinical Tutor, London Ambulance Service
- Luckett, Tracy TL  Deputy Director of Nursing, Moorfields Eye Hospital
- McGrath, Gracia GM  CEO, Chance UK
- McKeown, Anthony AM  DI, CAIT
- Mokades, Janet CHAIR JM  Independent Chair
- Morgan, Sue SM  Named Nurse, Community Services
- O'Shea, Barrie BO  Headteacher, Duncombe Primary School
- Odling-Smee, Patrick POS  AD Housing and Adult Services
- Koh, Dr DrK  CEO, Whittington Health
- Liveras, Georgina GL  Workforce Development
- Schooling, Eleanor ES  Director Children’s Services
- Stewart, Jeanie JSt  Safeguarding Adults Development Manager
- Watts, Richard RW  Executive Member, Children and Young People
- Wilson, Ella EW  Community Involvement Officer London Ambulance Service
- Winterbone, Jane JW  Assistant Director Young People
- Yilkan, Zafer ZY  Service Manager, CAFCASS

**Apologies:**
- Bailey, Alva AB  Head of Community Safety
- Buckell, Maggie MB  Service Director, Children’s Services, NHS Islington
- Kerr, Adam AK  ACO Camden & Islington, London Probation
- Marshall Steve SM  Chief Inspector, Police
- Norman-Bruce, Ian INB  Head of Targeted Services, Camb-ed@islington
- Ruddock, Alison AR  Head of Early Years Service
- Scott, Bronagh BS  Director of Nursing, Whittington Hospital
- Wheeler, Tony TW  Consultant Community Paediatrician, NHS Islington
- Wills, Natasha TWS  London Ambulance Service
## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- JM welcomed the group
- The CEO, Dr Koh from Whittington Health joined the meeting
- Jean Smith left the Board and has taken up a position on the Policy and Practice Subgroup. JM acknowledged the work Jean had put in

## APOLOGIES

- Apologies were noted from the above

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed subject to amendments below and can go on website
- Item 3 Mock Inspection should read – Both Police and CAMHS were cited by schools as invaluable services
- Item 6 – Young People’s Service - JW asked for confirmation that she should report back on YPD services by exception. This was confirmed. Report will be given in the meeting
- Item 6 – CAMHS – It was confirmed that CB will be responsible for reporting back on joint monitoring system between CAMHS and CSC
- Item AOB – It was confirmed that the correct name for the new Named Doctor at the Whittington is Giles Armstrong

## MATTERS ARISING

- None

## REPORTS FROM CHAIRS OF SUBGROUPS BY EXCEPTION – All Subgroup Chairs

- All Minutes Noted

To Note:
- QA
  - Action Plan for Child A has now been completed and QA sub group recommend to the Board that this is now signed off
  - IMR Author training will be given as and when the need arises. A briefing was given with a toolkit to support the authors of the current SCR
- Policy and Practice
  - The Policy and Practice Subgroup are taking a change of direction and will focus on five key areas:
    - Munro Review – responding to

The Board signed off Child A’s action plan
recommendations

- To continue to review Child Protection Policies
- To send CP flowchart and poster to those who submit licensing applications
- The transition from Children to Adult Services – reviewing procedures, the support that is in place and effectiveness
- Taking responsibility for the ISCB steering groups which include Faith and New Communities, Sport, Harmful Traditional Practices and Child Trafficking. Each one will report back on a rotated basis to the Policy and Practice Subgroup

- **Training**
  - This will be covered as an agenda item

- **E-Safety**
  - The E-Safety Subgroup will continue extending out into all areas to ensure that the focus is not solely on schools

- **CDOP**
  - There has been one Rapid Response Meeting for a child death that was not in suspicious circumstances
  - LE will be taking over as Chair of the Subgroup

### 3. Key Issues for Agencies – All

#### CSC - ES

- The Deep Dive Report was noted. ES clarified that she reported on this at last meeting. There was nothing further to add
- There is a new duty on the local authority with regards to early intervention work and less on crisis response. We need to keep a watchful eye on this

#### Police/YPD – AB & JW

- There has been an increased number of youth stabbings and shootings in the Crouch Hill area. Most of the young people are known to police.
- Stop and searches are taking place under Section 60 to all known gang members
- Engagement work with these youths and their families is ongoing and facilitation between the groups is taking place to stop the violence escalating. Timbuktu APG and The Laundry are providing space to police to facilitate group meetings
- Voluntary organisations are involved in the support of these young people including the Arsenal and local faith groups
- Gold meetings are taking place to look at key mechanisms that could be put in place to protect and
- Support these young people
  - Liaison with housing to make estates safer is ongoing. This includes cutting hedges back for higher visibility and looking at making areas safer where possible
  - ABr asked hospital representation to be alert, and to inform the police if any young person presents at A&E with an injury of this nature.
  - JCar confirmed that there are weekly meetings at the Whittington to look at what cases need to be referred on

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<tr>
<th>4. Munro Report - CB</th>
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<td>The final report was published in May. Some of the key messages and recommendations are:</td>
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<td>- The child protection system must be fully focussed on the needs of individual children and young people rather than centrally imposed processes and targets</td>
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<td>- Government prescription should be reduced and greater emphasis placed on local discretion and professional judgement</td>
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<td>- Working Together to Safeguard Children should be revised of to mark a clear distinction between statutory regulations and non-statutory practice guidance</td>
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<td>- The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families should be revised of to remove any central prescription around the format or timescales for completing risk assessments, including removing the distinction between initial and core assessments</td>
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<td>- Senior leaders have a vital role in ensuring effective safeguarding practice</td>
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<td>- A new duty should be placed on local authorities and partner agencies to secure sufficient provision of local “early help” services</td>
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<td>- The new inspection framework should examine the child’s journey from needing to receiving help, explore how the rights, wishes, feelings and experiences of children and young people inform and shape the provision of services, and look at the effectiveness of the help provided</td>
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<td>- The local safeguarding children board (LSCB) has a key role of holding partners to account</td>
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<td>- When monitoring and evaluating local arrangements, LSCBs should include an assessment of the effectiveness of the help being provided, and the effectiveness of multi-agency training to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people</td>
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<td>- LSCBs should use systems methodology in serious case reviews (SCRs) to consider the deeper, underlying issues that influence multi-agency practice</td>
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• Ofsted’s evaluation of SCRs should end
• Ofsted’s current programme of announced inspections should be replaced with a more intensive process of unannounced inspections that examines the effectiveness of all agencies working within local safeguarding partnerships

**Islington Implications:**
• Early intervention is being progressed through Community Budgets Social Work reform and CSC taskforce work
• Redesign the delivery of children’s social work - system will need to be created to progress
• Islington is already a pilot site for the Family Drug and Alcohol court mentioned in the Munro Report and Family Court Justice Review
• Director of Children’s Services and Lead member roles are not affected
• Learning culture for social workers is embedded
• Local Performance data - will need to create system
• SCR using systems methodology - will need to review in line with new guidance
• Approved practice settings for SW training - CSC will progress

5. **THE VOICE OF THE CHILD – Janet Mokades**

• JM informed the Board of the document “The Voice of the Child” which is an analysis of 67 serious case reviews that Ofsted have evaluated. The focus of the report is the importance of listening to the child as this is a recurrent theme within Serious Case Reviews.

There are five main messages with regard to the voice of the child. In too many cases:

- the child was not seen frequently enough by the professionals involved, or was not asked about their views and feelings
- agencies did not listen to adults who tried to speak on behalf of the child and who had important information to contribute
- parents and carers prevented professionals from seeing and listening to the child
- practitioners focused too much on the needs of the parents, especially on vulnerable parents, and overlooked the implications for the child
- agencies did not interpret their findings well enough to protect the child
- These messages were reiterated in the Munro report

6. **POLICY AND PRACTICE SUBGROUP ANNUAL REPORT - BOS**

- This item was covered in item 2

7. **CURRENT GOVERNMENT THINKING REGARDING THE CHANGING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR – Gracia McGrath**

GM presented on the above.

1. What the Government expects from the VCS - key points
   - National roll out of innovative local programmes
   - Evidence based programmes
   - Payment by results
   - Engagement with private sector
   - Direct commissioning
   - Partnership working with VCS
   - Professional approach to service provision
   - Equal partnership relationships with Local Authorities
   - Deliverers of government services

2. Chance UK’s response – key points
   - Work with partners to set up social franchise model
   - C4EO validation
   - Engaging with a range of funders, donors, schools, local authorities and government departments
   - Providing evidence of work

3. Islington should respond with high expectations in safeguarding, outcomes, quality assurance and full cost recovery

   GM to bring back to the Board in a year for further update

8. **CORE BUSINESS – Cathy Blair**

- The end of year performance report will be presented at the next meeting

9. **Annual Report and Plan – Melissa Friedberg**

- Annual Report - MF presented draft copy and asked for agreement on the document. Minor amendments included:
  - ISCB does not report to Children’s Trust Board
  - Change of dates on statistics chart
  - Amendment to wording regarding training statistics to include – single agency training is also accessed
  - Minor adjustment to budget figures

- Annual Plan –
  - Board members to email MF with any changes/additions to the outcomes section of the report

Report Agreed subject to amendments and should also be sent to the Health and Well Being Board

Agreed subject to amendments

MF to finalise the report
10. TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL PLAN – Georgina Liveras

GL presented the training report and asked the board to agree the following recommendations:

- That the Board agree the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training Strategy 2011-12 is adopted by all agencies working with children in Islington
- That the Board approve the template for auditing safeguarding training and agree its use by the Training and Professional Development Sub Group
- That the Board agrees the revised multi-agency training programme for 2011-12
- The Board notes the development of a quality assurance framework of course content and delivery
- That the Board considers the future of safeguarding training after March 31st 2012 when the central Children’s Workforce Development Team will no longer exist

To Note:
- The Multiagency programme should be aligned to what is on offer with the training strategy
- Statistical reporting on courses should run from April 1 to March 31
- Agencies need to provide facilitators to help run courses
- The board should consider employing a safeguarding trainer

Recommendations agreed

Report back to July Board with cost implications CB & GL

11. BETTER LIVES FOR CHILDREN – SUCCESS STORIES

This item will become a regular item for the Board instead of the host presentation and will focus on what works in interagency working. The first presentation was by Children’s Social Care

Tony Nagle outlined a success story for an Islington family that involved a multi-agency approach which included early years, education, health, children’s social care, adult alcohol and drug services, adult mental health, DVIP and the Family Drug and Alcohol Court:

- Both parents had alcohol and cannabis dependency
- Father was a perpetrator of domestic violence (alcohol
related)
- Mother had a history of depression and several suicide attempts
- There were issues of neglect and not meeting the practical and emotional needs of their children

What worked:
- Good communication and shared responsibility between agencies
- Children were supported to understand their parents’ journey to recovery
- High level of support provided to extended family
- Risks were quickly detected and addressed
- Clear care plan
- Good communication and clarity regarding role and responsibilities
- Regular reviews and evaluation what was working and what needed to be addressed
- Consistency and continuity with staff from each agency
- Good understanding across the network of adult and child needs
- Clarity that CSC were the lead agency
- Treatment supported and took place at GP surgery
- Continuous parenting assessment by the social worker
- Written agreements constantly reviewed
- Family Group Conferences were held regularly
- Motivational interviewing

Improvements for the children:
- School Attendance 100%
- Both children evidenced improved emotional well being and improved behaviour. This included a ceasing of wetting and soiling for the eldest child
- Both children responded well to transition to different care arrangements
- Youngest child had a positive transition from nursery to primary school
- Eldest child reported consistently to be trying his best at school despite relative low achievement
- Youngest child developing academically and developmentally in accordance with expected milestones
- Children able to manage the transition between contact/care by each parent well, respond well to boundaries in both houses, able to verbalise their thoughts and feelings

Improvements for the parents:
- Boundary setting and keeping
- Activities with children
- Ability to respond to children’s complex and sensitive emotional needs
- Ability to think about historical and current events from the children’s perspective
- Ability to make child-focused decisions about contact and activities
- Capacity to think about the future and plan for future goals and an improved lifestyle away from services
- Parents’ capacity to discuss the children in a child centred way and place their needs above their own
- Development of an amicable relationship which is based on co-parenting

12. AOB

- None

Meeting closed at 12.30pm